

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:301

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2008

WAGES UNDER NREGS

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the prevailing system of payment of wages under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);
- (b) whether wages are paid at a uniform rate in all the States;
- (c) if not, the details of the prevailing wage rate under NREGS; State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to take the matter with the States to increase the minimum wages for payment under NREGS; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR.RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 301 for answer on 19.12.2008

(a) To ensure transparency and integrity in wage payment under NREGA, States have been directed to ensure payment of wages through Post Offices and Banks. So far 5.27 crore accounts of NREGA workers in Banks/Post Offices have been opened. States of Karnataka and Kerala and UT of Puducherry are making entire payment of wages through accounts of the NREGA workers in Banks/Post Offices. In Andhra Pradesh, 99.56%; in Himachal Pradesh, 98.40% and in Uttranchal, 93.19% of the wages are being paid through Post offices/Banks. In Haryana, Jharkhand, Orissa and Rajasthan, 65% to 70% of the wages are paid through Bank/Post Office accounts. Other States are also making progress in this regard. As per reported figures from the States and UTs, 46.17% wages are being paid through accounts of NREGA workers at national level.

(b) & (c): Sub Section 2 of Section 6 of NREG Act provides that until such time as a wage rate is fixed by the Central Government in respect of any area in a State under Sub Section 1 of Section 6 of NREG Act, the minimum wage fixed by the State Government under Section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, for agricultural labourers shall be considered as the wage rate applicable to that area. The minimum wages fixed by States are not uniform across the States. The details of prevailing minimum wages in the States are at Annexure.

(d) & (e): The Ministry of Rural Development has discussed the subject matter of minimum wages with the State Governments from time to time. There is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Rural Development for taking up the matter with the States for increasing the minimum wages fixed by the respective States

Annexure as referred in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 301 for answer on 19.12.2008

S. No Name of State/Districts Prevailing Wage Rate

1	Assam	Rs. 79.60
2	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 80
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Area-I (Rs. 65)
	Area-II (Rs. 67)	
4	Bihar	Rs 81
5	Gujarat	Rs. 100.00
6	Haryana	Rs. 141.02

7	Himachal Pradesh	Rs.100.00
8	Jammu & Kashmir	Rs. 70.00
9	Karnataka	Rs. 82.00
10	Kerala	Rs.125
11	Madhya Pradesh	Rs.91.00
12	Maharashtra	Rs.72, Rs.70, Rs.68 & Rs.66 respectively for Zone I, II, III, IV
13	Manipur	Rs. 81.40 for Hill & Valley
14	Meghalaya	Rs.70.00
15	Mizoram	Rs.91.00
16	Nagaland	Rs.100.00
17	Orissa	Rs.70.00
18	Punjab	
18(a)	Hoshiarpur	Rs. 98.61
18(b)	Jalandhar	Rs. 93
18(c)	Nawanshar	Rs. 94.91
18(d)	Amritsar	Rs. 105
19	Rajasthan	Rs. 100
20	Sikkim	Rs. 100
21	Tamil Nadu	Rs.80.00
22	Tripura	Rs 85/-
23	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 100/-
24	West Bengal	Rs. 75/-
25	Chattisgarh	Rs. 72.23
26	Jharkhand	Rs.86.40
27	Uttaranchal	Rs.73.00
28	Goa	Rs.103/-
29	Andaman & Nicobar Rs. 130/-per day/labour Nicobar district Rs. 139/- per day/labour	Andaman District
30	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs.108.00
31	Daman & Diu	Rs.102.00
32	Lakshadweep	Rs.115.00
33	Puducherry women for five hours of work	Rs. 80 for men for six hours of work & Rs.70 for
34	Chandigarh	Rs. 140.00